more than in Government schools. We pay higher grants on this account.

Primary Education.—

Then, coming to Primary Education, I am glad to find that all of you agree as regards the duty of the State in the matter of spreading elementary education. I think there is absolutely no difference of opinion between non-officials and Government in regard to this matter. We have adopted it as our definite policy to extend mass education. Looking into the budget, you will find we are spending more than two-thirds on elementary education. The net outlay on Education during the year 1099 was 7 lakhs of rupees, of which 5 lakhs was spent on Primary Education.

The bulk of the expenditure on Secondary Education is on the schools for girls. Against 7 Sirkar Girls' High Schools, there are only 2 aided High Schools for girls. That is why the expenditure on private schools is very much less than that on Government schools.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

Will the Honourable Member inform me whether the Convent at Trichur applied for recognition and whether it was refused ?

Mr. C. MATTHAI (*Director of Public Instruction*).

It was granted by me three months ago.

Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

What about the circular about the maximum and minimum strength ?

Mr. C. MATTHAI (*Director of Public Instruction*).

I am coming to it. I simply drew attention to what was in the Code. In past years I used to give liberal concessions. In the present condition of the finances of the State, Government are fully justified in strictly enforcing the minimum fixed by the Code. For instance, in the case of a Primary school with 100 pupils, we pay Rs. 100 or 150 as monthly grant. Since the scale of grant is liberal, Government are justified in insisting on an adequate return for the grant given. These circulars are issued weeks before the schools commence work. This is done, so that the village

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schoolmasters may go and gather children into their schools. Teachers require some incentive of this kind.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

Is it the rule of the department that in Malayalam Primary schools no English can be taught, and if English is taught, fees should be levied from the students? I see no reason in that rule. We can impart a little English education in such schools. When we teach both, why do we levy fees from the students?

Mr. C. MATTHAI (*Director of Public Instruction*).

As I have already explained, there are two sorts of schools—English and Malayalam. English schools are meant for the well-to-do classes who can afford to pay fees.

Now, I come to the depressed classes.

The Depressed Classes.—

Dr. A. G. MENON (*Tattamangalam*).

Can an official member take additional time?

President.—He has to reply to the criticisms levelled against his department. Mr. Matthai may proceed.

Mr. C. MATTHAI (*Director of Public Instruction*).

We were spending largely on the education of the depressed classes. The grant of Rs. 7,000 does not represent all that we do for the depressed classes. It represents only the grant for books, clothes, slates, etc. We do not levy any fees from them even in English schools. Now, we are feeding them only once in a week. Formerly, we were feeding them every day. But this sort of expenditure was difficult to check. Bills were sent in for Rs. 100 and Rs. 200 a month from each school. As the expenditure was going out of bounds, it had to be stopped. For instance, a certain gentleman started three schools for Pulayas; one, he called, Rama Varma Memorial School, another, Vijayaraghava Chari Memorial School, and the third Davies Memorial School. He was drawing a monthly grant of about Rs. 400. Later on, we discovered he was making considerable investments in property as a result of his philanthropy.

President.—The member has exceeded his time. Rule 48 of the Legislative Council Rules says that no

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